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EXAMINER

PHAM, MICHAEL

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/766,758	Applicant(s) JENSEN ET AL.	
	Examiner MICHAEL PHAM	Art Unit 2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 January 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Status

1. Claims 21-44 are pending.
2. Claims 21-44 have been examined.

Specification

3. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: machine-readable medium is not in the specifications.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

4. Regarding claim 29, this claim recites a “processing component” and “storage device”. In the absence of any modifying disclosure of this limitation in the specification, the examiner interprets the term ‘processing component’ as limited to hardware embodiments; and the term ‘storage device’ as excluding printed paper, transmission media, signals, or any form of energy, such that the claim clearly falls within a statutory class of invention as required under the terms of 35 U.S.C. 101.

5. Regarding claim 37, this claim recites a “tangible machine-readable medium”. In the absence of any modifying disclosure of this limitation in the specification, the examiner interprets the term ‘tangible machine readable media’ as excluding printed paper, transmission

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media, signals, or any form of energy, such that the claim clearly falls within a statutory class of invention as required under the terms of 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. **Claims 21, 23-29, 31-37, and 39-44 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6385563 by Vora et. al. (hereafter Vora).**

Claim 21 :

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations:

“receiving, from a first user in a plurality of users, one or more commands for creating a first computer graphics model in a model creation environment, wherein the first computer graphics model including includes a first plurality of geometric objects;”[col. 9 lines 6-11, the user begins by building a model. Once some reusable design components have been created or are made available on the user's computer or over the network, users can incorporate them into the models they are constructing. Accordingly, receiving, from a first user (user) in a plurality of users (users), one or more commands (building a model) for creating a first computer graphics model in a model creation environment (figure 1 element 175, model), wherein the first computer graphics model includes a first plurality of geometric objects (models).]

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“receiving, from the first user, a request to include an instance of a second computer graphics model in the first computer graphics model, wherein the second computer graphics model including includes a second plurality of geometric objects, and wherein the second computer graphics model is independent of the first computer graphics model;”[col. 9 lines 11-16, at step 320, the user signals a request for a reusable design component. The modeling application can present the available reusable design components as a list. If the reusable design component has default input values, the modeling application can provide a default representation of the reusable design component. Accordingly, receiving, from first user (user), a request (request) to include an instance of a second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 185) in the first computer graphics model (figure 1 element 175), wherein the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 185) including includes a second plurality of geometric objects (components), and wherein the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 180) is independent of the first computer graphics model (figure 1 element 170)]

“in response to the request, retrieving a specification of the second computer graphics model, the specification of the second computer graphics model including information identifying, for at least one object in the second plurality of geometric objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;”[Accordingly, in response to the request, retrieving a specification of the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 180), the specification of the second computer graphics model including information identifying (col. 6 lines 8-10, height, width, countertop material), for at least one object in the second plurality of geometric objects (figure 1 element 185, countertop, toe kick), one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable (col. 6 lines 8-10, height, width, etc.)]

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“creating the instance of the second computer graphics model and including said instance in the first computer graphics model; and” [col. 9 lines 17-21, the selected reusable design component is inserted into the user’s model. Accordingly, creating the instance of the second computer graphics model (reusable design) and including said instance in the first computer graphics model (inserted into the user’s model)]

“for each object in the instance of the second computer graphics model:

determining, based on the specification of the second computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are overridable; and” [Figure 1 element 185 and 180. Accordingly, for each object in the instance of the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 185) determining, based on the specification of the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 180), attributes of said each object that are overridable (col. 6 lines 8-10, height, width, etc.; col. 6 lines 47-49, user can also adjust the inputs or parameters that define the design fragment)]

enabling the first user to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable.” [Col. 6 lines 47-49, user can also adjust the inputs or parameters that define the design fragment. Accordingly, enabling the first user (user) to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable (the user can adjust the inputs or parameters defined in the design fragment).]

Claim 23 :

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations:

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“receiving, from the first user, a new value for an overridable attribute of an object in the instance of the second computer graphics model;”[col. 6 lines 47-48, user can also adjust the inputs]

“applying the new value as a current value for the overridable attribute in the context of the first computer graphics model; and”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

“storing a specification of the first computer graphics model,” [figure 1 element 106]
“wherein the specification includes a reference to the specification of the second computer graphics model and the new value” [figure 1 element 106; col. 6 lines 41-45, design fragment is added to the model data 170]

Claim 24:

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations: “wherein the specification of the first computer graphics model is stored as a first file,” [figure 1 element 170] “and wherein the specification of the second computer graphics model is stored as a second file distinct from the first file.”[figure 1 element 180]

Claim 25 :

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations:

“receiving, from a second user in the plurality of users, one or more commands for creating a third computer graphics model in the model creation environment, the third computer graphics model including a third plurality of objects;” [col. 6 lines 27-28. Accordingly, receiving, from a second user in the plurality of users (col. 10 lines 1-5, users), one or more

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commands for creating a third computer graphics model in the model creation environment (col. 5 line 64, kitchen), the third computer graphics model including a third plurality of objects (figure 1 element 175)]

“receiving, from the second user, a request to include an instance of the first computer graphics model in the third computer graphics model;”[col. 6 lines 27-28, once a reusable design component has been created it can be used in other models. Accordingly, receiving, from the second user (user), a request to include an instance of the first computer graphics model in the third computer graphics model (col. 6 lines 27-28)]

“in response to the request, retrieving the specification of the first computer graphics model, the specification of the first computer graphics model including information identifying, for at least one object in the first plurality of geometric objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;” [col. 6 lines 42-43; col. 6 lines 47-48. Accordingly, in response to the request, retrieving the specification of the first computer graphics model (selected design fragment is added), the specification of the first computer graphics model including information identifying (figure 1 element 180), for at least one object in the first plurality of geometric objects (col. 6 lines 8-18, island), one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable (col. 6 lines 10-8-10)]

“creating the instance of the first computer graphics model and including said instance in the third computer graphics model; and”[figure 1 element 185]

“for each object in the instance of the first computer graphics model:

determining, based on the specification of the first computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are overridable; and”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

“enabling the second user to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable.”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

Claim 26 :

Vora discloses: “the method of claim 21, wherein the second computer graphics model is created by a second user in the plurality of users distinct from the first user.”[col. 10 lines 1-5]

Claim 27:

Vora discloses:

“receiving, from the first user, a request to include an instance of a third computer graphics model in the first computer graphics model,”[col. 6 lines 30-32, the user simply signals to the modeling application to provide a list of available reusable design components] “the third computer graphics model having been created by a third user” [col. 6 lines 19-20] “in the plurality of users distinct from the first and second users,”[col. 9 line 10; col. 10 lines 1-5] “the third computer graphics model including a third plurality of objects”[col. 6 lines 8-18]

“in response to the request, retrieving a specification of the third computer graphics model,” [col. 6 lines 42-43]“the specification of the third computer graphics model including information identifying,”[col. 6 lines 8-18] “for at least one object in the third plurality of

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objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

“creating the instance of the third computer graphics model and including said instance in the first computer graphics model; and” [figure 1 element 175]

“for each object in the instance of the third computer graphics model:

determining, based on the specification of the third computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are overridable; and” [col. 6 lines 47-48]

“enabling the first user to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable.” [col. 6 lines 47-48]

Claim 28 :

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations “wherein the specification of the second computer graphics model, further includes information identifying, for at least one object in the second plurality of geometric objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;”[col. 6 lines 47-48]

“wherein the method further comprises: for each object in the instance of the second computer graphics model:

determining, based on the specification of the second computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are not overridable; and”[col. 6 lines 52-53, user cannot access the interface between the design fragment and the model.]

“preventing the first user from overriding values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be not overridable.” [col. 6 lines 52-53]

Claim 29:

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations:

“a storage device configured to store specifications for a plurality of computer graphics models; and” [figure 1 element 106, memory]

“a processing component in communication with the storage device,” [figure 1 element 108, processor]

“the processing component being configured to:”[figure 1 element 108, processor]

“receive, from a first user in a plurality of users, one or more commands for creating a first computer graphics model in a model creation environment, wherein the first computer graphics model includes a first plurality of geometric objects;”[col. 9 lines 6-11, the user begins by building a model. Once some reusable design components have been created or are made available on the user's computer or over the network, users can incorporate them into the models they are constructing. Accordingly, receive, from a first user (user) in a plurality of users (users), one or more commands (building a model) for creating a first computer graphics model in a model creation environment (figure 1 element 175), wherein the first computer graphics model includes a first plurality of geometric objects (models);]

“receive, from the first user, a request to include an instance of a second computer graphics model in the first computer graphics model, wherein the second computer graphics model includes a second plurality of geometric objects, and wherein the second computer graphics model is independent of the first computer graphics model;” [col. 9 lines 11-16, at step 320, the user signals a request for a reusable design component. The modeling application can

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present the available reusable design components as a list. If the reusable design component has default input values, the modeling application can provide a default representation of the reusable design component. Accordingly, receive, from the first user (user), a request (request) to include an instance of a second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 185) in the first computer graphics model (figure 1 element 175), wherein the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 185) includes a second plurality of geometric objects (components), and wherein the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 180) is independent of the first computer graphics model (figure 1 element 170)]

“in response to the request, retrieve a specification of the second computer graphics model from the storage device, the specification of the second computer graphics model including information identifying, for at least one object in the second plurality of geometric objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;” [Accordingly, in response to the request, retrieve a specification of the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 180), the specification of the second computer graphics model including information identifying (col. 6 lines 8-10, height, width, countertop material), for at least one object in the second plurality of geometric objects (figure 1 element 185, countertop, toe kick), one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable (col. 6 lines 8-10, height, width, etc.)]

“create the instance of the second computer graphics model and include said instance in the first computer graphics model; and” [col. 9 lines 17-21, the selected reusable design component is inserted into the user’s model. Accordingly, creating the instance of the second computer graphics model (reusable design) and including said instance in the first computer graphics model (inserted into the user’s model)]

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“for each object in the instance of the second computer graphics model:

determining, based on the specification of the second computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are overridable; and” [Figure 1 element 185 and 180.

Accordingly, for each object in the instance of the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 185) determining, based on the specification of the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 180), attributes of said each object that are overridable (col. 6 lines 8-10, height, width, etc.; col. 6 lines 47-49, user can also adjust the inputs or parameters that define the design fragment)]

“enabling the first user to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable.” [Col. 6 lines 47-49, user can also adjust the inputs or parameters that define the design fragment. Accordingly, enabling the first user (user) to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable (the user can adjust the inputs or parameters defined in the design fragment).]

Claim 31 :

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations:

“recieve, from the first user, a new value for an overridable attribute of an object in the instance of the second computer graphics model;”[col. 6 lines 47-48, user can also adjust the inputs]

“apply the new value as a current value for the overridable attribute in the context of the first computer graphics model; and”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

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“store a specification of the first computer graphics model,” [figure 1 element 106]
“wherein the specification includes a reference to the specification of the second computer graphics model and the new value” [figure 1 element 106; col. 6 lines 41-45, design fragment is added to the model data 170]

Claim 32:

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations: “wherein the specification of the first computer graphics model is stored as a first file,” [figure 1 element 170] “and wherein the specification of the second computer graphics model is stored as a second file distinct from the first file.”[figure 1 element 180]

Claim 33 :

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations:

“receive, from a second user in the plurality of users, one or more commands for creating a third computer graphics model in the model creation environment, the third computer graphics model including a third plurality of objects;” [col. 6 lines 27-28. Accordingly, receive, from a second user in the plurality of users (col. 10 lines 1-5, users), one or more commands for creating a third computer graphics model in the model creation environment (col. 5 line 64, kitchen), the third computer graphics model including a third plurality of objects (figure 1 element 175)]

“receive, from the second user, a request to include an instance of the first computer graphics model in the third computer graphics model;”[col. 6 lines 27-28, once a reusable design component has been created it can be used in other models. Accordingly, receive, from the

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second user (user), a request to include an instance of the first computer graphics model in the third computer graphics model (col. 6 lines 27-28)]

“in response to the request, retrieve the specification of the first computer graphics model, the specification of the first computer graphics model including information identifying, for at least one object in the first plurality of geometric objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;” [col. 6 lines 42-43; col. 6 lines 47-48. Accordingly, in response to the request, retrieve the specification of the first computer graphics model (selected design fragment is added), the specification of the first computer graphics model including information identifying (figure 1 element 180), for at least one object in the first plurality of geometric objects (col. 6 lines 8-18, island), one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable (col. 6 lines 10-8-10)]

“create the instance of the first computer graphics model and including said instance in the third computer graphics model; and”[figure 1 element 185]

“for each object in the instance of the first computer graphics model:

determine, based on the specification of the first computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are overridable; and”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

“enable the second user to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable.”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

Claim 34 :

Vora discloses: “the method of claim 21, wherein the second computer graphics model is created by a second user in the plurality of users distinct from the first user.”[col. 10 lines 1-5]

Claim 35:

Vora discloses:

“recieve, from the first user, a request to include an instance of a third computer graphics model in the first computer graphics model,”[col. 6 lines 30-32, the user simply signals to the modeling application to provide a list of available reusable design components] “the third computer graphics model having been created by a third user” [col. 6 lines 19-20] “in the plurality of users distinct from the first and second users,”[col. 9 line 10; col. 10 lines 1-5] “the third computer graphics model including a third plurality of objects”[col. 6 lines 8-18]

“in response to the request, retrieve a specification of the third computer graphics model,” [col. 6 lines 42-43]“the specification of the third computer graphics model including information identifying,”[col. 6 lines 8-18] “for at least one object in the third plurality of objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

“create the instance of the third computer graphics model and including said instance in the first computer graphics model; and” [figure 1 element 175]

“for each object in the instance of the third computer graphics model:

determine, based on the specification of the third computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are overridable; and” [col. 6 lines 47-48]

“enable the first user to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable.” [col. 6 lines 47-48]

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Claim 36 :

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations “wherein the specification of the second computer graphics model, further includes information identifying, for at least one object in the second plurality of geometric objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;”[col. 6 lines 47-48]

“wherein the method further comprises: for each object in the instance of the second computer graphics model:

determine, based on the specification of the second computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are not overridable; and”[col. 6 lines 52-53, user cannot access the interface between the design fragment and the model.]

“prevent the first user from overriding values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be not overridable.” [col. 6 lines 52-53]

Claim 37 :

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations:

“receive, from a first user in a plurality of users, one or more commands for creating a first computer graphics model in a model creation environment, wherein the first computer graphics model includes a first plurality of objects;” [col. 9 lines 6-11, the user begins by building a model. Once some reusable design components have been created or are made available on the user's computer or over the network, users can incorporate them into the models they are constructing. Accordingly, receive, from a first user (user) in a plurality of users (users), one or more commands (building a model) for creating a first computer graphics model in a

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model creation environment (figure 1 element 175), wherein the first computer graphics model includes a first plurality of geometric objects (models);]

“receive, from the first user, a request to include an instance of a second computer graphics model in the first computer graphics model, wherein the second computer graphics model includes a second plurality of objects, and wherein the second computer graphics model is independent of the first computer graphics model;” [col. 9 lines 11-16, at step 320, the user signals a request for a reusable design component. The modeling application can present the available reusable design components as a list. If the reusable design component has default input values, the modeling application can provide a default representation of the reusable design component. Accordingly, receive, from the first user (user), a request (request) to include an instance of a second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 185) in the first computer graphics model (figure 1 element 175), wherein the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 185) includes a second plurality of geometric objects (components), and wherein the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 180) is independent of the first computer graphics model (figure 1 element 170)]

“in response to the request, retrieve a specification of the second computer graphics model, the specification of the second computer graphics model including information identifying, for at least one object in the second plurality of geometric objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;” [Accordingly, in response to the request, retrieve a specification of the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 180), the specification of the second computer graphics model including information identifying (col. 6 lines 8-10, height, width, countertop material), for at least one object in the second plurality of

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geometric objects (figure 1 element 185, countertop, toe kick), one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable (col. 6 lines 8-10, height, width, etc.)]

“create the instance of the second computer graphics model and including said instance in the first computer graphics model; and” [col. 9 lines 17-21, the selected reusable design component is inserted into the user’s model. Accordingly, creating the instance of the second computer graphics model (reusable design) and including said instance in the first computer graphics model (inserted into the user’s model)]

“for each object in the instance of the second computer graphics model:

determine, based on the specification of the second computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are overridable; and” [Figure 1 element 185 and 180. Accordingly, for each object in the instance of the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 185) determining, based on the specification of the second computer graphics model (figure 1 element 180), attributes of said each object that are overridable (col. 6 lines 8-10, height, width, etc.; col. 6 lines 47-49, user can also adjust the inputs or parameters that define the design fragment)]

“enable the first user to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable.” [Col. 6 lines 47-49, user can also adjust the inputs or parameters that define the design fragment. Accordingly, enabling the first user (user) to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable (the user can adjust the inputs or parameters defined in the design fragment).]

Claim 39 :

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Vora discloses the following claimed limitations:

“recieve, from the first user, a new value for an overridable attribute of an object in the instance of the second computer graphics model;”[col. 6 lines 47-48, user can also adjust the inputs]

“apply the new value as a current value for the overridable attribute in the context of the first computer graphics model; and”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

“store a specification of the first computer graphics model,” [figure 1 element 106]
“wherein the specification includes a reference to the specification of the second computer graphics model and the new value” [figure 1 element 106; col. 6 lines 41-45, design fragment is added to the model data 170]

Claim 40:

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations: “wherein the specification of the first computer graphics model is stored as a first file,” [figure 1 element 170] “and wherein the specification of the second computer graphics model is stored as a second file distinct from the first file.”[figure 1 element 180]

Claim 41 :

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations:

“receive, from a second user in the plurality of users, one or more commands for creating a third computer graphics model in the model creation environment, the third computer graphics model including a third plurality of objects;” [col. 6 lines 27-28. Accordingly, receive, from a

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second user in the plurality of users (col. 10 lines 1-5, users), one or more commands for creating a third computer graphics model in the model creation environment (col. 5 line 64, kitchen), the third computer graphics model including a third plurality of objects (figure 1 element 175)]

“receive, from the second user, a request to include an instance of the first computer graphics model in the third computer graphics model;”[col. 6 lines 27-28, once a reusable design component has been created it can be used in other models. Accordingly, receive, from the second user (user), a request to include an instance of the first computer graphics model in the third computer graphics model (col. 6 lines 27-28)]

“in response to the request, retrieve the specification of the first computer graphics model, the specification of the first computer graphics model including information identifying, for at least one object in the first plurality of geometric objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;” [col. 6 lines 42-43; col. 6 lines 47-48. Accordingly, in response to the request, retrieve the specification of the first computer graphics model (selected design fragment is added), the specification of the first computer graphics model including information identifying (figure 1 element 180), for at least one object in the first plurality of geometric objects (col. 6 lines 8-18, island), one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable (col. 6 lines 10-8-10)]

“create the instance of the first computer graphics model and including said instance in the third computer graphics model; and”[figure 1 element 185]

“for each object in the instance of the first computer graphics model:

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determine, based on the specification of the first computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are overridable; and”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

“enable the second user to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable.”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

Claim 42 :

Vora discloses: “the method of claim 21, wherein the second computer graphics model is created by a second user in the plurality of users distinct from the first user.”[col. 10 lines 1-5]

Claim 43:

Vora discloses:

“receive, from the first user, a request to include an instance of a third computer graphics model in the first computer graphics model,”[col. 6 lines 30-32, the user simply signals to the modeling application to provide a list of available reusable design components] “the third computer graphics model having been created by a third user” [col. 6 lines 19-20] “in the plurality of users distinct from the first and second users,”[col. 9 line 10; col. 10 lines 1-5] “the third computer graphics model including a third plurality of objects”[col. 6 lines 8-18]

“in response to the request, retrieve a specification of the third computer graphics model,” [col. 6 lines 42-43]“the specification of the third computer graphics model including information identifying,”[col. 6 lines 8-18] “for at least one object in the third plurality of objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;”[col. 6 lines 47-48, adjust the inputs]

“create the instance of the third computer graphics model and including said instance in the first computer graphics model; and” [figure 1 element 175]

“for each object in the instance of the third computer graphics model:

determine, based on the specification of the third computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are overridable; and” [col. 6 lines 47-48]

“enable the first user to override values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be overridable.” [col. 6 lines 47-48]

Claim 44:

Vora discloses the following claimed limitations “wherein the specification of the second computer graphics model, further includes information identifying, for at least one object in the second plurality of geometric objects, one or more attributes of said at least one object that are overridable;”[col. 6 lines 47-48]

“wherein the method further comprises: for each object in the instance of the second computer graphics model:

determine, based on the specification of the second computer graphics model, attributes of said each object that are not overridable; and”[col. 6 lines 52-53, user cannot access the interface between the design fragment and the model.]

“prevent the first user from overriding values for the attributes of said each object that are determined to be not overridable.” [col. 6 lines 52-53]

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8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. **Claims 22, 30, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6184901 by Silva et. al. (hereafter Silva) further in view of U.S. Patent 6377263 by Falacara et. al. (hereafter Falacara).**

Claim 22:

Vora does not explicitly disclose: “wherein the first plurality of geometric objects in the first computer graphics model are organized according to a hierarchical structure, and wherein including the instance of the second computer graphics model in the first computer graphics model comprises geometrically coupling the instance of the second computer graphics model to the hierarchical structure.”

On the other hand, Falacara discloses figure 6 rendering a human component 601. Figure 6 illustrates a sample part hierarchy for a “human” component, col. 6 lines 26-27. Abstract discloses the graphical model and behavioral model are independent software modules that may be reused with other components. That the graphical model of a component is constructed from a hierarchy of parts. Accordingly, wherein the first plurality of geometric objects in the first computer graphics model are organized according to a hierarchical structure (figure 6), wherein including the instance of the second computer graphics model (parts) in the first computer graphics model (parts) comprises geometrically coupling (graphical model) the instance of the

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second computer graphics model to the hierarchical structure (constructed from hierarchy of parts).

Both Vora and Falacara are directed to reusable modeling systems, and are therefore within the same filed of endeavor and analogous. It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have applied Falacara's disclosure of a hierarchy to Vora for the purpose of allowing certain sets of parts to be manipulated as a whole, col. 7 lines 20-21.

Claim 30:

Vora does not explicitly disclose: "wherein the first plurality of geometric objects in the first computer graphics model are organized according to a hierarchical structure, and wherein including the instance of the second computer graphics model in the first computer graphics model comprises geometrically coupling the instance of the second computer graphics model to the hierarchical structure."

On the other hand, Falacara discloses figure 6 rendering a human component 601. Figure 6 illustrates a sample part hierarchy for a "human" component, col. 6 lines 26-27. Abstract discloses the graphical model and behaviorial model are independent software modules that may be reused with other components. That the graphical model of a component is constructed from a hierarchy of parts. Accordingly, wherein the first plurality of geometric objects in the first computer graphics model are organized according to a hierarchical structure (figure 6), wherein including the instance of the second computer graphics model (parts) in the first computer graphics model (parts) comprises geometrically coupling (graphical model) the instance of the

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second computer graphics model to the hierarchical structure (constructed from hierarchy of parts).

Both Vora and Falacara are directed to reusable modeling systems, and are therefore within the same field of endeavor. It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have applied Falacara's disclosure to Vora for the purpose of allowing certain sets of parts to be manipulated as a whole, col. 7 lines 20-21.

Claim 38:

Vora does not explicitly disclose: "wherein the first plurality of geometric objects in the first computer graphics model are organized according to a hierarchical structure, and wherein including the instance of the second computer graphics model in the first computer graphics model comprises geometrically coupling the instance of the second computer graphics model to the hierarchical structure."

On the other hand, Falacara discloses figure 6 rendering a human component 601. Figure 6 illustrates a sample part hierarchy for a "human" component, col. 6 lines 26-27. Abstract discloses the graphical model and behavioral model are independent software modules that may be reused with other components. That the graphical model of a component is constructed from a hierarchy of parts. Accordingly, wherein the first plurality of geometric objects in the first computer graphics model are organized according to a hierarchical structure (figure 6), wherein including the instance of the second computer graphics model (parts) in the first computer graphics model (parts) comprises geometrically coupling (graphical model) the instance of the second computer graphics model to the hierarchical structure (constructed from hierarchy of parts).

Both Vora and Falacara are directed to reusable modeling systems, and are therefore within the same field of endeavor. It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have applied Falacara's disclosure to Vora for the purpose of allowing certain sets of parts to be manipulated as a whole, col. 7 lines 20-21.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 21-44 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record listed on pto-892 and not relied, if any, upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL PHAM whose telephone number is (571)272-3924. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on 571-272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/M. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 2167

/John R. Cottingham/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit
2167

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